

Essay Writing

90% of the mass is below the surface

Introduction Paragraph

What is your argument? What are the two sides of the argument? What is your thesis statement? What is your topic sentence? What is your main point? What is your conclusion? What is your evidence? What is your analysis? What is your synthesis? What is your evaluation? What is your recommendation? What is your conclusion? What is your recommendation? What is your conclusion? What is your recommendation?

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Conclusion

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Introduction Paragraphs

- Make a claim! Always remember that your argument has two sides (at least) and you should always present all of the evidence.
ex: The school should allow students to choose whether or not they have to wear a uniform every day.
- Claims like these let the reader know that they are about to be persuaded, but does not push your opinion onto them
- Your introduction should make your reader want to support you enough that they will read through your full argument.

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Body Paragraphs

1. You should always have at least two-three reasons that your claim should be supported. These reasons will serve as "topics" for each of your paragraphs.
2. Each one of these reasons should be supported by three pieces of textual evidence.

Body Paragraph Structure

Topic Sentence: Old McDonald took horrible care of his farm animals.

Evidence one: "He was too busy saying 'E-I-E-I-O' to do any real work."

Evidence two: "His cows would 'moo-moo here' and 'moo-moo there' all day and he would not do anything." (Goose, 43)

Evidence three: The words "Here a quack, there a quack, everywhere a quack-quack!" (Goose, 45) suggest that the ducks were not happy either.

It is very important to cite your work! We cite Shakespeare like this:

(I, ii, 43-45)

Act One, Scene Two, Lines 43 to 45

Always present the other side:

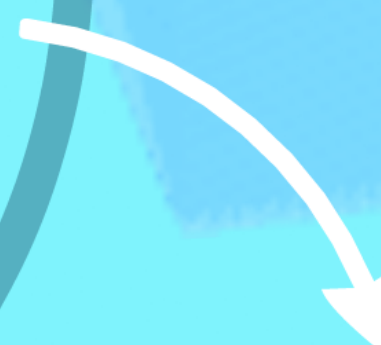
ex: Some believe that Old McDonald was a great farmer. His singing raised moral and kept his animals happy.

Be sure to explain your quotes and how they appeal to the reader's ethos, pathos, and logos.

Use the Rhetorical Devices hand-out for some ideas of what literary devices you may use as well.

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ex: Some believe that Old McDonald was a great farmer. His singing raised moral and kept his animals happy.



Conclusion

This is where you "seal the deal" on your argument.

Please do not simply re-state your thesis.

You should mention your thesis, and the ways in which you proved it true, but add some information that will leave the reader thinking.

ex: Old McDonald may have been a horrible farmer, but he kept the American Dream alive for so many.

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